Department of Public Works

Building Code Enforcement

120 S. Kansas Avenue
P.O. Box 356
Haven, KS 67543
Phone: 620.465.3618
Fax: 620.465.3617
cityclerk@havencityhall.org

RESIDENTIAL STANDBY GENERATOR

PERMIT & INSPECTION GUIDE

PURPOSE

The handout was created to aid customers with understanding the permit and inspection process to install a residential standby generator. Included are the required permits, items that must be available to the City Inspector at the construction site, and the items that the City Inspector will be verifying in the field during the inspection process.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Single mechanical permit will be required.

INSPECTION PACKAGE CONTENTS

The manufacturer's installation manual and the permit must remain on the jobsite at all times during the inspection process. The inspection requirements for residential generators will be based on the manufacturer's installation manual and NFPA standards, whichever is more restrictive.

SPECIFIC ITEMS REQUIRED

The following items ***from the manual*** will be verified by the inspectors:

- Requires clearances for maintenance and service of any equipment located within the general area.
- Flex fuel lines, regulators, and the BTU rating for sizing the gas service line to the meter.
- Electrical specifications for the proposed generator.
- Thickness and size of required foundation / support.
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INSPECTION CHECK POINTS

Plumbing Final Inspection

- Site Inspection of all plumbing pipe installed from gas meter to generator, verifying correct size for:
    1. Required flex connector listed for the generator size being installed.
    2. The regulator if required also sized for the specific generator installed.
    3. Gas meter and piping.
    4. Location and orientation

Electrical Inspections

- Pad Inspection — **prior to pouring concrete** when construction "*poured-in-place" pad (for location only).*
- Site Inspection minimum dimension from the generator or generator housing (*when provided)* to:
    1. Lot lines or property lines — 6 feet.
    2. Combustible exterior building walls (*including wood framed—brick veneer)* = 5 feet min.
    3. Openings located in an exterior wall of a building = 5 feet min. *Sec. 4.1.4 of NFPA 37*
    4. Location and orientation of equipment in relation to the existing electrical panel.
    5. Electrical wire installation and conduit.
    6. Electrical contractor's load analysis identifying the electrical loads selected to verify the generator and transfer switch is appropriately sized for the designated loads.